

*National League for the Protection of
the Family*

REPORT

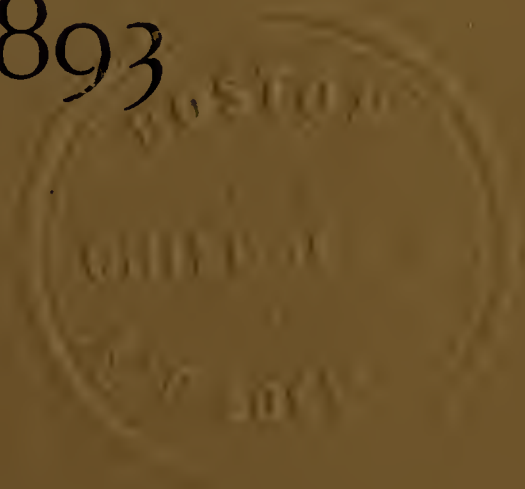
OF THE

National Divorce Reform League

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31

1893



THE National Divorce Reform League

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000,000 people in the United States—a time when one-third of the human race will be under the stars and stripes. Each year sees the centre of population travel seven miles toward the setting sun. I have watched you. You are marching ahead of progress.

Great applause attended the conclusion of the address, and three cheers were called for and given with a will. The other speakers were Messrs. Gordon Plummer, "Leather"; W. C. Lewis, "Sweethearts and Wives"; Fred H. Nazro, "Our Mutual Friend"; John H. Hanan, "Our Sister Organization"; F. W. Norcross, "The 'Bagmen' of Europe"; J. C. Page, "The Veterans"; "Auld Lang Syne" by the entire company of conspirators. Interspersed were delightful musical selections by Mr. Clemens, and humor by Mr. Hill.

The menu was a handsome souvenir, especially admirable, being the compilation of the toasts, reflecting great credit on the perpetrators. Messrs. J. G. Earle and W. C. Lewis.

HENRY VILLARD AT HARVARD.

He Addresses the Deutscher Verein on "The Germany of To-day."

A large audience greeted Mr. Henry Villard in Sever Hall, Cambridge, last night, and those who understood German were treated to a most interesting address. Mr. Villard began by commenting on the wonderful progress of the German nation during the past 25 years. At first it was almost the toy of the states about it; now it has risen, though surrounded by powerful nations, to be the superior of them all in arts, in literature and in power. Its rise has been due to a powerful army and navy, and to the liberal policy of the government. To these factors must be added the growth of national feeling, which began in 1858, with the accession of William to the throne. This desire for union, for a strong centralized government, was best shown in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, and is shown today by the welcome which the Emperor receives in parts of Germany once hostile.

The national legislative bodies have established a uniform monetary system, a uniform system of duty for all the states, and have reformed the department of justice. In the past 25 years the population has increased, wages have doubled and a network of railways facilitates commerce. Schools and universities have also increased in efficiency. This phenomenal growth of Germany has caused other countries to rival her, and causes still more in European politics.

But a broad foundation has been laid and suggestions will be rapidly added, especially as the states and nation shall be induced to provide for social statistics. The most vexatious obstacle presented in this work is due to the neglect of legislatures to provide for the notation or classification of the simplest facts, and in the negligence of the officials to make up primary or official reports. While, perhaps, such reports as this are generally free to all who apply to their members of Congress or to the proper department, the salient

Features of the Investigation

ought to be put into cheap form in tracts, leaflets and the like for the use and information of the people. Dr. Dike said that the report on immigration for the department of state which the league had undertaken had already done something to bring about the promise, in time, of bearing legislative fruit, and had already done much to show the people that the moral and industrial value of the home is a powerful factor in the social problem.

In respect of legislation, Dr. Dike remarked that all were waiting the result of the present investigations. A strong movement in behalf of reform was begun last summer in Rhode Island under the lead of the Episcopal church, with the proposed co-operation of all other Christian bodies. It will probably make advance soon. There is an attempt to secure legislation in Illinois. Gov. Hill of New York has urged the provision by the Legislature of that state for a conference of representatives from all the states to consider the question of uniform marriage and divorce laws. A senator in Congress and a present member of the house of representatives have already introduced resolutions in Congress providing for a constitutional amendment on this subject. Dr. Dike had declined to present his own view before the judiciary committee, because he wished to speak after the appearance of the report. In Canada and in Europe and also in Australia there had been some advance in legislation.

The educational work during the year had made advance. Dr. Dike had given lectures in Bowdoin College, before the New England normal school teachers, in Washington and elsewhere, and the study of the family in

A Scientific Manner

had been taken up at Johns Hopkins University, at the Institute of Technology in Boston, and among some women of education and practical wisdom. The work of Mrs. Maria Upham Drake, secretary of the league and a highly educated woman, had been very

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legislation in four states, California having also increased the term of residence to one year, and prohibited the advertising of the divorce lawyer's business.

"During the past year 11 new commissions on uniform legislation have been created, making 19 in all. The states now having commissions are Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming. They include almost exactly one-half the population of the entire country, and are now enough in number and influence to make sure these two conditions of successful experiment."

Dr. Dike speaks strongly on the subject of our careless marriage laws, though he admits that Massachusetts is probably the most careful of all our states in these matters. He urges that an effort shall be made this winter to secure legislation that will improve this condition of things. The defects in furnishing correct statistics of births, marriages, deaths and divorces are again complained of, and it is shown that the statistical bureaus abroad are doing a great deal better work than our own in this respect. The statistics regarding migration for divorce indicate that this migration is so small, relatively, as to make it one of the lesser evils of our divorce laws.

The growth of interest in the study of the family and its incidental subjects, and especially in sociology, of which former reports have spoken, was more marked in 1893 than in any former year, especially

In the Colleges for Women.

Dr. Dike reports a course of four lectures given by himself on "Sociology" in Smith College, which were the first of the kind ever delivered there. He also gave a course of six lectures on the home in relation to society at Lasell Seminary, in Auburndale. He has tried the experiment of introducing this subject before a class in university extension at New London, Ct., with success.

Beside these, two lectures were given in the theological school of Boston University, two in Cornell, one each in Auburn, Colgate and Union theological seminaries and in Brown and Syracuse universities. An address was also made at the conference of theological professors in the evangelical alliance in Chicago on "The Place of Sociological Education in the Work of Theological Seminaries."

The most hopeful thing in the review of the movement in the interest of the family is the evidence of the growth of an intelligent interest in the idea of the home as a most important social factor. The interest in sociology as a science brings out the home in the educational institution. A course on the family is an inevitable consequence of the introduction of sociology into the college or theological seminary. Students of ethics and economics are making more of the home in their studies. The problems of the higher education of woman and the study of psychological and pedagogical subjects, lead directly to the home. The new methods in philanthropy and social reform generally have brought forward the home itself as the first and fundamental object of solicitude and effort. The church, too, has awakened a good deal to the danger that lurks in some of her own modern methods, by which a perplexing number of societies often embarrass each other and the church.

The report closes with the suggestion that it is better to keep children at home when possible, or to put them into families, than into great institutions. It is mentioned as an oversight that, while the children are sent from these homes, which are not fit to live in, no effort is made to better the condition of the homes whence the children are taken.

DIVORCE REFORM LEAGUE.

Report of a Year's Efforts in Sociological Directions.

Dr. Dike Gives an Account of His Labors in Social Reform, Chiefly in Strengthening the Interest in the Family—Better Marriage and Divorce Laws in Half the States.

At the annual meeting of the National Divorce Reform League, yesterday afternoon, at the office of Hon. Edmund H. Bennett, No. 10 Tremont street, Dr. Samuel W. Dike, the secretary, read his 13th annual report, a condensed account of which is here given:

"The year has been one of unusual combination of opportunity and difficulty. The distractions of the World's fair, notwithstanding some of its opportunities, and of the financial troubles of one-half of the year, have disturbed collections. But by the fidelity of our old contributors, we close the year with a debt of only \$112.21, due to the salary account, and we think much useful work has been done.

"Considerably more than one-half the Legislatures of the states met in the year 1893, and an unusual number took some action upon the subjects of marriage and divorce. The following are the chief points in the laws enacted:

"Alabama removed the disabilities of minority from all married women who are 18 years of age and less than 21.

"The discussion of the divorce laws of Colorado, which we reported two years ago, has evidently led to practical results. for a statute of this year restates the law of divorce in many respects and introduces some new restrictions. Greater care is prescribed in the personal service of libels for divorce on parties without the state, and 50 days' time are required for it.

"Connecticut makes a slight change in the provision for service of notice on a party out of the state.

"In Delaware the Legislature proposes a constitutional amendment, giving exclusive jurisdiction of suits for divorce to the superior courts. Hitherto most divorces in this state have been granted

By Acts of the Legislature.

"Maine has slightly changed her statute regarding divorce for neglect to support, by adding to the words 'where the husband being of sufficient ability' the following clause, 'or being able to labor and provide for her' fails to do so.

"In Massachusetts all divorces are in the first instance nisi, or conditional, for six months as before. The only change is in the method of effecting the final and absolute divorce.

"New York makes it a misdemeanor for a minister to celebrate the marriage of a person to whose legal marriage any lawful impediment may exist. This state has further enacted that any person who shall assume to grant a divorce, in writing, purporting to divorce husband and wife, and permitting them to marry again, until a marriage has been dissolved or annulled by a proper tribunal or court, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, for which a fine or both fine and imprisonment are provided.

"Ohio has passed a statute which says that, when a divorce is granted by reason of the aggression of the husband, the wife shall, by force of the judgment of divorce, be restored to all her lands, tenants, hereditaments, etc., not previously disposed of, and the husband shall be debarred of all right of dower in them, and her name, if she so desire, shall be restored.

"Oregon has prohibited marriage between first cousins or any of nearer kin, whether of the whole or half blood, computing by the rules of the civil law.

"Pennsylvania has a new statute which attempts to define the county or counties whence marriage licenses must be issued, and providing in certain cases for the identification of the applicants.

"In South Dakota the term of residence required of the plaintiff has been increased from 90 days to six months: and in case the defendant is a non-resident, the plaintiff must be a bona fide resident of the state for one year preceding

The Granting of the Divorce.

"In Washington there is a statute in restriction of hasty marriage after divorce. It provides that no divorced person can intermarry with any third person within six months from the date of the entry of the judgment or decree granting the divorce, or in case an appeal is taken it shall be unlawful to contract another marriage until judgment be rendered on such appeal in the supreme court.

"It will be seen that the interest in improved laws of divorce among certain states, of which our report for has since shown itself in actual

of $\frac{1}{2}$. Maine Central held at 105. Bell telephone fell 6 to 176, recovering to 180, and closing 180 asked. General Electric was heavy and closed $\frac{3}{4}$ off at 36 $\frac{1}{4}$. Westinghouse preferred was up $\frac{1}{4}$ to 46 $\frac{1}{4}$. Boston & Montreal lost $\frac{1}{4}$ net to 25 $\frac{1}{4}$. Osceola 3s to 27 $\frac{1}{8}$ s. West End 5s sold at 100, and Illinois steel 5s at 67, and Memphis & Birmingham assented 5s at 23, and General Electric 5s at 72, and Chicago Junction 5s at 101. In the price of 5 per cent. bonds there is much variation. Sugar declined $\frac{3}{4}$ to 83 $\frac{1}{4}$. Bay State gas rose $\frac{1}{4}$ to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$.

A lot of 250 shares State Street Exchange was sold by auction at 110 today, against 107 before. Second National Bank rose $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 185 $\frac{1}{2}$. Everett fell 2 to 38. Coheco National of Dover, N. H., 5 to 75. The previous recorded sale was 80, January, 1893. Wilton railroad stock sold at 210, against 230 $\frac{1}{2}$ about a year ago. National Tube Works preferred declined $\frac{1}{2}$ to 78 $\frac{3}{4}$. City of Providence 4s of 1921, gold, brought 109 $\frac{1}{2}$, and City of Lowell 4s of 1920 105 $\frac{1}{2}$. Waltham Gas sold down 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 148 $\frac{1}{4}$.

The drop in Bell Telephone from 181 to 176 delighted the bears, who have long operated on the short side with uncertain profits. The selling was for both accounts. Some small lots are dislodged by the near expiration of the receiver patent and the fear that the revenues may be reduced by competition. Overthrow the Berliner patent, and competition would in time become formidable. But even then the Bell company would have a great business, for the scores of local companies through the land are controlled by the Bell company, and are under perpetual contract to purchase instruments from the parent concern. Improve the telephone service by substituting superior apparatus to that manufactured with the Berliner improvements, and the pathway to successful competition is an open one. Until this patent is overthrown or superseded by something better than itself, it will be an uphill task contending against the great monopoly. Somebody bid \$15 today for the 1894 dividends upon 1000 shares Bell stock. It will take years to construct a telephone system that could cope with the American Bell upon even terms, and how many more years to cope with it upon unequal terms?

The strength of New York & New England common stock today was due to a report that Messrs. Platt and Parsons would be made permanent receivers. Like most things said of late regarding this property, it wasn't so when said.

It is reported on the street that the West End Railway Company has declined the syndicate bid for \$3,000,000 10-year 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. bonds.

It is good opinion that, unless the situation changes for the worse in 30 days, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy directors will declare the usual 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. dividend for payment in March. The earnings are poor and yet show an improvement.

A conference of Cleveland, Canton & Southern second mortgage bondholders was held today to consider the matter of united action to protect their interests. The sentiment of the meeting was that the bondholders should not deposit their bonds to be stamped assented to the issue of receivers' certificates. This issue of certificates accomplishes very little for the property, and the opinion obtains that a radical reorganization is the only practical way out of the company's embarrassment.

Union Pacific, Denver & Gulf railroad people gained a measure of satisfaction when they secured separate receivers, but they lost something worth more in dollars and cents than what they gained. Whether the future will bring compensating advantages is another question. The Boston News Bureau states the case clearly when it says that the Union Pacific allowed the Denver & Gulf on traffic divisions a constructive mileage of three for one. When a separate receivership was had, and the Gulf road set up its autonomy, the Union Pacific receivers proposed a division of traffic upon a pro rata mileage basis. This was afterward modified, and the court allowed a division on the basis of 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1, which was all Union Pacific people were willing to concede. Before the receivership the Union Pacific, for its traffic connection with the Gulf system, made good the interest upon the latter's bonds, and, as a measure of averaging payment of this interest, made the division of mileage three for one, and this just about met the interest on the Gulf bonds. Now the Gulf road will have to face a deficit of more than \$500,000 a year if it wishes to stand upon its elected independent basis.

It is a fair question to ask whether the Union Pacific is not the real gainer by the separation of the properties.

Edsall, Webster & Co. of Colorado Springs say, Jan. 12, that the latest reports from the Mollie Gibson mine are very favorable. The large pump on the 10th level is working satisfactorily, and development work is being pushed rapidly on the 8th, 9th and 10th levels. In about six weeks it will be definitely known whether the great ore chute extends below the 6th level. The above firm is but one of several who send out weekly letters from Colorado Springs regarding the Cripple Creek mines. One of these letters ventures the opinion that when the history of that gold district is written it will be remarked that its timely discovery saved Colorado from utter financial prostration, and served the country in a monetary crisis.

An interesting, instructive and useful volume of 70 pages, with index, by Maurice J. ...

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NOTES.

1. Our thanks are due to all our old friends, and to many new contributors to the National Divorce Reform League. Amid the financial troubles of the greater part of the year, these made such efforts in our behalf that the Treasurer's account shows a debt of only \$112.21. The League is to be congratulated upon this unabated interest and the self-sacrificing contributions of its friends.

2. The special issues of the League are always sent to all contributors to its funds, and as long as in print to all who ask for them.

The Reports of 1890 and later years, the special issues of 1893, a recent statement of the Methods and Work of the League, and in a few instances the Reports of 1887-1889, can still be mailed freely to all applicants for them. Attention is called to the last issue of 1893—The Theory of the Marriage Tie. It treats especially of the political and social significance of the theories of Marriage and Divorce that underlie the practices of our people.

3. The third edition of the Report of the Hon. Carroll D. Wright, Commissioner of Labor, on Marriage and Divorce in the United States and Europe, can be had on application as above to the Department of Labor at Washington, D.C. It differs from the first only in a few slight corrections. The Census Bureau will soon issue a Bulletin showing the number of divorced persons in the several States, so far as reported in the Census of 1890.

4. It is hoped that all persons who appreciate the work of the League will make unusual efforts to enable us to recover immediately from the contraction of our plans that became necessary last year in order to escape a heavy debt, and make the advance in work that was then desired, and which is greatly needed. The Secretary is without some of the ordinary aids of an efficient office, and much of his time could be saved to more important duties immediately if the desired increase in donations can be made.

The early enclosure of your contribution for the present year,

or of some statement regarding the sum you hope to send at some probable time later will confer a great favor.

5. Churches and individuals who cannot do so this year are respectfully asked to make a place for the interests of Family and the Home in their charities in the early future. Experience in philanthropic work for social improvement has shown that nothing does more to relieve the burdens of all charitable societies than the improvement made in the Home.

6. Special attention is called to the privilege of ASSOCIATE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP, which is freely extended to all proper persons, both ladies and gentlemen, on payment of *five dollars* for the year, to be renewed at the pleasure of the subscriber. Such members are for the time members in full, entitled to vote at our meetings and to receive all our publications. *If you are not a larger contributor, will you not send your request for associate membership and the fee to the Treasurer at once, and thus give substantial aid to this most important work?*

7. The Treasurer, WILLIAM G. BENEDICT, 610 ATLANTIC AVENUE, BOSTON, MASS., will gratefully acknowledge all contributions.

8. All correspondence relating to the general work of the League and special inquiries for lectures, literature and information should be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary, REV. SAMUEL W. DIKE, LL.D., AUBURNDALE, MASS.

Contributions may be sent to him, or to the Treasurer as directed above.

CHANGES IN THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The death of Dr. George C. Shattuck removes from us a valued officer who rarely failed to attend a meeting of the committee and who was ever ready to aid us with his counsel and contributions of money.

Judge Bennett, after most useful service as Chairman for five years amid the many other cares that devolve upon him, feels compelled to decline re-election, and retires with the grateful appreciation and best wishes of the League.

The Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, D.D., of Cambridge, and the Rev. Daniel Merriman, D.D., of Worcester, both of whom have been generously interested in the League for many years, have

accepted election to these vacancies, and the vacancy of last year is now filled by the election of the Hon. Charles C. Burr, of Auburn-dale.

The Hon. Hamilton A. Hill kindly consents to act as Chairman until the complete organization of the committee.

RECORD OF ANNUAL MEETING.

BOSTON, Jan. 17, 1894.

THE 14th annual meeting of the National Divorce Reform League was held at the office of Hon. Edmund H. Bennett, LL.D., Boston, Jan. 17, 1894, at 2.30 P. M. Meeting called to order by Rev. Alvah Hovey, D. D. Prayer was offered by Dr. Hovey.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by Rev. C. H. Spalding and approved.

On motion of Rev. S. W. Dike, LL.D., the following new members were elected: Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, D. D., Cambridge, and Mr. Frank Gaylord Cook, Cambridge. The report of the Treasurer, William G. Benedict, Esq., was presented and referred to Hon. Hamilton A. Hill as auditor. The report of the Corresponding Secretary, Dr. S. W. Dike, was submitted and read in part. Voted to receive it and order its publication.

The following were chosen a committee on nomination of officers: Dr. S. W. Dike, Hon. C. C. Burr and Mr. Horace Dutton.

Dr. Dike read a report of the nominating committee as follows:

President, Rev. Alvah Hovey, D. D., LL.D.

Vice-Presidents, Hon. Nathaniel Shipman, LL.D., and Hon. Seth Low, LL.D.

Corresponding Secretary, Rev. S. W. Dike, LL.D.

Recording Secretary, Rev. C. H. Spalding.

Treasurer, William G. Benedict, Esq.

Executive Committee, Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, D. D.; President M. H. Buckham, D. D.; Rev. Daniel Merriman, D. D.; Hon. S. E. Baldwin, LL. D.; Prof. Francis G. Peabody, D. D.; Prof. W. E. Huntington, Ph. D.; Prof. George Harris, D. D.; Rev. James DeNormandie; Rev. G. D. B. Pepper, D. D., LL.D.; Hon. Hamilton A. Hill, LL. D.; Hon. C. C. Burr; Rev. S. W. Dike, LL.D.

These officers were elected.

Hon. Hamilton A. Hill presented his report as auditor of the Treasurer's account and it was accepted. Treasurer's report was accepted.

Minutes read and approved.

C. H. SPALDING, *Recording Secretary*.

REPORT

OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

The National Divorce Reform League began its work when the isolated treatment of social problems had just begun to yield to the comprehensive method, and the sentimental and purely practical mode of operations required the correction of the scientific. In all its thirteen years of existence, the League has taken its course along the new line. The questions about Marriage and Divorce are held to be only essential parts of the larger problem of the Family, and the latter, in its turn, is considered to be inseparable from the great social problem as a whole. Improved legislation and better practice in respect of Marriage and Divorce must attend or follow a comprehensive work of investigation, education and practical improvements that shall touch the Family constructively through an improved society. Such work must have the inspiration of religion and the direction of science.

Another thing should not be overlooked. A society organized to do this kind of work must be content to belong to that class of benevolent societies and individuals that illustrate the higher forms of charitable effort. These see that they help best when they do least for others, while they encourage others to do more for themselves. So it is our appointed work to awaken a sense of need, to point to the opportunity that lies within the peril, to ask that others see their own resources, to encourage self-respect and to lead to self-help, ourselves, meanwhile, doing what little we do in such a way that others shall do more. For it would not be easy to say whether the Home, in this country, has suffered more from downright neglect, or from the kindly but mistaken efforts of its friends to get other institutions to make it a chronic pauper through undue dependence on their charitable gifts to its necessities.

Such a society cannot easily report its work on paper. It cannot separate its own share in the common field of service, much less take home its exact part of the harvest to be weighed and measured.

It does not readily justify its claims, in the minds of those good people who estimate benevolent work by the thousands of dollars expended, and the hundreds of laborers employed and paid from a rich treasury. It must be content to look over the field, especially that part of it which it has consciously touched in the course of its service, and tell what has been going on in all directions. We rejoice in a constituency that is appreciative of this aim and these methods.

The year has been one of unusual combination of opportunity and difficulty. The distractions of the World's Fair, notwithstanding some of its opportunities, and of the financial troubles of one half of the year, have disturbed collections. But by the fidelity of our old contributors, their generous sacrifices and those of others to whom a special appeal was made, with the rigorous reduction of work that involved any expense that could be avoided, we close the year with a debt of only \$112.21, due to the salary account, and we think much useful work has been done. We now take up the leading departments of the work and report on the progress in them for 1893.

STATE LEGISLATION.

Considerably more than one-half the legislatures of the States met in the year 1893, and an unusual number took some action upon the subjects of Marriage and Divorce. The following are the chief points in the laws enacted.

ALABAMA removed the disabilities of minority from all married women who are eighteen years of age and under twenty-one.

COLORADO. The discussion of the Divorce laws of Colorado, which we reported two years ago, has evidently led to practical results. For a statute of this year restates the law of Divorce in many respects and introduces some new restrictions. Greater care is prescribed in the personal service of libels for divorce on parties without the State, and fifty days' time are required for it. The details of service by publication must be set forth under oath, and careful examination must be made by the court of the plaintiff and other witnesses to determine what steps were actually taken, etc. Default for non-appearance of the defendant is not allowed, and in case of non-appearance the court must appoint an attorney to defend, who shall cross-examine the witnesses. A jury must be impanelled to try the case. The plaintiff, too, must be personally

present and be a resident and citizen of the State for one year, except in a suit for an offence of adultery or cruelty committed within the State, and then the trial must take place in the county where the offence occurred.

All marriage licenses granted henceforth must contain statements of the fact of a previous divorce, in case there was one, and contain, under the penalties of perjury for erroneous information, answers to the questions, when, where and on what grounds was the divorce granted. These answers are to be certified to the parties in the license issued to them.

CONNECTICUT makes a slight change in the provision for service of notice on a party out of the State.

DELAWARE. The legislature proposes a constitutional amendment giving exclusive jurisdiction of suits for divorce to the superior courts. Hitherto most divorces in this State have been granted by acts of the legislature.

MAINE has slightly changed her statute regarding divorce for neglect to support, by adding to the words, "where the husband being of sufficient ability," the following clause, "or being able to labor and provide for her," fails to do so.

MASSACHUSETTS. Here all divorces are in the first instance *nisi* or conditional for six months as before. The only change is in the method of effecting the final and absolute divorce. Formerly the decree could become absolute only on application by the party to the court. Now it is made absolute at the expiration of the six months, unless application to the contrary has been made to the court and the court has ordered against the final decree.

NEW YORK makes it a misdemeanor for a minister to celebrate the marriage of a person to whose legal marriage any lawful impediment may exist.

This State has further enacted that any person who shall assume to grant a divorce, in writing, purporting to divorce husband and wife and permitting them to marry again, until a marriage has been dissolved or annulled by a proper tribunal or court, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, for which a fine or both fine and imprisonment are provided.

OHIO has passed a statute which says that when a divorce is granted by reason of the aggression of the husband, the wife shall by force of the judgment of divorce be restored to all her lands, tenants, hereditaments, etc., not previously disposed of, and the

husband shall be debarred of all right of dower in them, and her name, if she so desire, shall be restored. In case of divorce by aggression of the wife, a corresponding definition of rights is made.

OREGON has prohibited marriage between first cousins or any of nearer kin, whether of the whole or half blood, computing by the rules of the civil law.

PENNSYLVANIA has a new statute which attempts to define the county or counties whence marriage licenses must be issued, and providing in certain cases for the identification of the applicants. But I believe there are some defects in the statute that make a revision of it desirable.

SOUTH DAKOTA. In this State the effective work of Bishop Hare and others has brought some of the reforms of whose need our former Reports have spoken. The term of residence required of the plaintiff has been increased from ninety days to six months; and in case the defendant is a non-resident, the plaintiff must be a *bona-fide* resident of the State for one year preceding the granting of the divorce.

WASHINGTON. Legislation in this new State has made a statute in restriction of hasty marriage after divorce. It provides that no divorced person can intermarry with any third person within six months from the date of the entry of the judgment or decree granting the divorce. Or in case an appeal is taken it shall be unlawful to contract another marriage until judgment be rendered on such appeal in the Supreme Court. All marriages contracted in violation of this law, whether in the State or out of it, shall be void. It is further enjoined that the Courts expressly make this prohibition in their decrees of divorce, and the parties who violate it are subject to penalty for contempt of court.

It will be seen that the interest in improved laws of divorce among certain Western States, of which our Report for 1891 spoke, has since shown itself in actual legislation in four States, California having also increased the terms of residence to one year, and prohibited the advertising of the Divorce lawyer's business.

THE COMMISSIONS ON UNIFORM LEGISLATION.

The creation of these is necessarily slow, since it depends upon biennial sessions, now the practice in most States, upon local interest in the subject, and upon the readiness of legislators to make the ex-

periment at all. The first year we reported *six* commissions. The next year, when few legislatures met, only *two* were added. But during the past year *eleven* new commissions have been created, making *nineteen* in all. The States now—January, 1894—having commissions are the following: Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming. They include almost exactly one-half the population of the entire country, and are now enough in number and influence to make sure these two conditions of successful experiment.

The Commissioners met in conference in Milwaukee, August 31 and September 1, and assigned the subject of Marriage and Divorce to one of the eight committees on the various subjects before the Conference. This Committee will report to the Conference early in the coming summer. A statement of the former recommendations of the Conference, so far as they concern our own subjects, may be found in the Annual Report of the League for 1892. It seems to us a misfortune that, in order to overcome obstacles to the creation of these commissions, they were not provided with enough money for the effective prosecution of their work, none being granted either for personal services or for salaried clerks.

MARRIAGE LAWS OF GERMANY.

There are certain features of the laws regulating Marriage, now common in Europe, that are instructive for their careful protection of the interests of society. Some of their points are noted here for the information of those who are not familiar with them and for comparison with the condition of things in the United States. We select the marriage law of Germany, which, since 1876, has been uniform for the whole empire, because it is probably the most scientifically constructed and typical of laws in several European countries. It is intended to be a part ultimately of a uniform system of Family law for the German Empire, and was enacted in 1875. The legal ages at which men and women may marry are, respectively, 20 and 16 years. The consent of parents or guardians, subject to dispensation, is carefully required of all under 25 and 24 years. The prohibited degrees within which marriage is illegal are carefully defined. Guardians and wards, adopted children and those

who adopt them, persons divorced for adultery and their paramours, cannot intermarry. And women cannot marry within ten months of the dissolution of a former marriage. Jurisdiction of the above regulations of the imperial law is given to the courts of the several States.

Only the civil officer of the community (district) where one of the parties lives, or one deputed by him, can perform the *legal* ceremony. But as I understand it, a religious ceremony also may be performed here as in nearly all Europe. Announcement of the intended marriage must always be made for two weeks in the communities where the parties live, and, in case of recent removal, in the place of former residence also. Two witnesses must be present at the marriage, and a record made and kept, giving the usual facts required in our own better laws, and in addition those regarding religion, both of the parties married and of their witnesses. And finally, the State is protected against bigamous marriages by a provision similar to our method of recording the evidence of the discharge of a mortgage. For the law requires that "the dissolution of every marriage, whether by death or divorce, every declaration of inability and of nullity, must be entered on the margin of the original entry of the marriage."

The proposed marriage law of Hungary is probably nothing more than an attempt to establish there the complete separation of Church and State in the matter of marriage, making the civil marriage obligatory and leaving parties free to a religious ceremony when they desire it. While our American social condition may not permit us to adopt all the provisions of the European system, we cannot be blind to the value of some of them. For the obligatory civil contract with the optional religious celebration has two meritorious features: It accords with our separation of church and State, and it gives place to both the legal contract and the religious element without confounding the two, as our law now does. The continental system, which England only partially follows, may not be feasible in this country at present. But it is worthy of serious consideration.

Certainly the important transaction of marriage, whence springs the Family and the Home, should receive much of the care with which we provide for the transfer of real estate. Marriage without license; the issuance of licenses to unknown persons whose residence is far away, with imperfect or no safeguards against

deception; the celebration of marriages by a host of parties having civil authority to do so; the absence of witnesses and the facilities for secret marriages, or seductions in the name of marriage, are great evils in many of our States. One can easily be persuaded that these things work more serious evils than even the scandalous laws which allow thousands to go from Philadelphia to Camden to escape the wholesome regulations of Pennsylvania regarding a license and the small fee which it requires. Should not Church and Society do more to create a public sentiment that will encourage the combination of dignity, respect for law and social order, and throw the charm of beauty and, if need be, of simplicity, around the details of marriage? The real sincerity with which we must believe most persons enter upon this sacred relation ought to be brought to bear on the careless practice of many of our people in regard to its celebration.

That we have not spoken too strongly on this subject of our careless marriage laws may be seen from the following remarks upon one point, taken from the Report of the Commissioner of Public Records of Massachusetts, and which has come to hand since the above was written. It is all the more significant because Massachusetts is probably the most careful, of all our States in these matters. The Commissioner, writing Jan. 3, 1894, says in his official Report:

“Marriage certificates are obtained with the greatest ease by persons not entitled to them, by false representations which cannot be disproved by the clerk. Persons known to be ineligible by reason of their age or of having a husband or wife go out of town and obtain a certificate, and in border towns they go out of the State and are out of reach of our laws, returning to a town where they are not known and where no certificate is looked for or filed. Intentions are recorded when no marriage takes place, but in the incompleteness of the records it will be assumed in later years that it took place, but the record was omitted. In one instance, at least, a certificate was obtained and the intention of marriage printed in a daily newspaper, when the marriage was not intended by the lady.

“Clergymen, as a rule, keep no such record of marriages as is intended by the law, and, as far as can be ascertained, justices of the peace seldom keep *any*. Both are careless about returning the certificates, and when returning to two towns the marriage is likely to be recorded as occurring in both.

“Notwithstanding the fact that the record is wrong in very many cases, and is known to be, ‘the record of a town clerk relative to a birth, marriage or death, shall be prima facie evidence, in legal proceedings, of the facts recorded.’”

We hope to coöperate in an effort this winter to secure legislation that will improve this condition of things. In connection with the officers of the Statistical Association and other societies, your Secretary was heard before Committees of the Legislature of Massachusetts, regarding the work of the preparation of Registration Reports. A more accurate report appears this year.

INVESTIGATION.

The International Statistical Institute held its first meeting in this country the past summer at Chicago. By the special request of Gen. Francis A. Walker, President of the American Statistical Association, your Corresponding Secretary prepared a short paper for the former body, on the present Condition and Needs of Marriage and Divorce Statistics. This paper was read before the Institute, and will appear in the Bulletin to be published in French and English. The suggestions made, it is understood, met with approval from the eminent statisticians who were present, and it is hoped that in time improvements will be made in this branch of statistics, both in respect of fulness and uniformity. It is particularly desirable that our own States, which, with a few exceptions, are painfully deficient in their statistics relating to domestic life, should begin and develop statistics of births, marriages, deaths and divorces, worthy of comparison with those of Europe and our own Department of Labor at Washington. Every year of delay brings loss of invaluable sociology and material, besides exposing domestic interests to grave dangers.

RECENT STATISTICS.

Using the opportunity afforded by the preparation of this paper, I addressed letters to the chiefs of the leading Statistical Bureaus of Europe, to obtain their opinions on the needs of statistics of this kind, and especially to secure statistics of Marriage and Divorce for the years since 1886, when the investigation made by our own government closed. Though inquiries were made at an inconven-

ient time, more than three-fourths of the Bureaus responded in the most satisfactory manner. All the late official publications, and, in most instances, the latest returns in manuscript tables were sent. Through the courtesy of the State officials and correspondents, the statistics of Divorce, to which chief attention has been given, have also been gathered from the few American States which can supply them, from Canada and from Australia and the adjacent British Colonies. Hon. Carroll D. Wright, at present in charge of the census of 1890, has kindly supplied me with statistics of the number of divorced persons reported in the last census for the several States and Territories. I hope to print these tables the coming year, either complete or in summaries, in one of our special publications.

STATISTICS REGARDING MIGRATION FOR DIVORCE.

Former reports of the League referred to our proposal to the Census Bureau, and the adoption of the plan that the population of the States in 1890 should be classified by conjugal condition and place of birth in a way that would enable us to make a closer estimate of the migration of parties for the express purpose of obtaining divorce than could be had from the fact, already ascertained in the Report on Marriage and Divorce by Mr. Wright, in 1889, that 80.1 per cent. of those whose place of marriage was known were divorced in the State where they had been married. This tabulation, which was repeatedly promised me, was abandoned in order to hasten the work, and the present Superintendent in charge writes that it cannot now be readily taken up. It is the opinion of the most competent judges that the Census ought to be a permanent office, where such work as this, and much other of the utmost value to the country, could be done at leisure and relieve the office of the enormous burden that now falls on it in the year or two immediately following the taking of the Census itself. Fortunately for us, the public have now pretty generally accepted our conclusions of some years, that this migration is so small, relatively, as to make it one of the lesser evils of our divorce laws, and so the loss of this information is less serious than it might have been.

PUBLICATIONS.

It has been our practice to prepare each year, for the Re-

views or other channels of communications, some papers to meet current needs or to prevent some new phases of our problems, and when suitable for the purpose, to reprint them for the use of the League. Four such special re-issues were made in 1893, three of which were written by the Corresponding Secretary. These were the paper on Sociology in the Higher Education of Women, from the *Atlantic Monthly* of November, 1892; the Church and the Home, a Report to the General Association of the Congregational churches of Massachusetts, by Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer, the Rev. Edward C. Porter and your Secretary; and The Theory of the Marriage Tie, prepared by request, for the Parliament of Religions in Chicago, and first published in the *Andover Review* of December, 1893. The other issue was the able report on the Family to the last National Council of Congregational churches by the Rev. Dr. Daniel Merriman, of Worcester. An article of the Secretary appeared in the *Contemporary Review* of November, 1893, on The Problem of the Family in the United States. As this was written chiefly for British readers, it did not seem worth while to reprint it for our use here. A pamphlet on the Methods and Work of the League was published in November, and will be useful in explaining these matters to those who do not take time to read our annual Reports.

LECTURES.

The growth of interest in the study of the Family and its incidental subjects and especially in Sociology, of which former reports have spoken, was more marked in 1893 than in any former year, especially in the colleges for women. Some of this latter is directly traceable to the paper on Sociology in the Higher Education of Women, which led to considerable discussion, and has been regarded as especially timely. The response to it and to the Report on the Home and the Church, in letters from educated young women and others, shows how wide the feeling is that every interest of breadth in personal culture, of educational opportunity and domestic welfare demand that Sociology and the Home become subjects of study in colleges for women as well as in those for men. A course of four lectures was given in Smith College in May, introductory to Sociology, the first work of the kind, I was told, in that institution. This academic year a new professor

has courses both on Sociology and the Family. Two lectures were also given at Vassar, and only lack of funds prevented a course at another leading college for women.

ILLUSTRATED LECTURES IN SOCIOLOGY.

A course of six lectures was also given in Lasell Seminary, Auburndale, Mass., on the Home in relation to Society; its Place in the present social structure seen in the study of the Modern Village; its Place in earlier social life as seen in the earlier types of village life; Changes in it incident to social growth; the Constitution of the Home; the Home in Economics and Law; and the Home in Education and Religion. The course was arranged in part as a preparation for the work of instruction in Domestic Science and Ethics, and partly to throw light on the social problem of the day. By free use of the blackboard and crayons of different colors, it was comparatively easy to secure an intelligent attention to subjects usually reserved for the last year in college or the university.

A similar experiment before a general audience as a class in University Extension, with a membership of nearly 300, had been made late in the winter in New London, Ct., where the conditions were extremely favorable, except that it was a first experiment on the part of the lecturer. The subjects were somewhat different and differently arranged from the Lasell course, including a lecture on the use of statistics, which has invariably proved one of great interest to the students. The regular lecture of the hour was followed by a class for a half hour or more, at which work given out was examined and a free conference was held. The course was so successful that it was immediately sought for by three or four other societies for University Extension, and but for the financial troubles would probably have been given repeatedly elsewhere, as it will be soon in a Theological Seminary. Former reports have pointed to the probable value of our subjects in University Extension, but now actual trial shows that people find nothing more interesting and helpful than a Sociological study of familiar social problems, at which they had formerly looked through a single one of the social sciences or only in the general way of reading the popular books on them. Such a course, properly conducted, and aided by experience in practical work, can hardly fail to make the

place, work and importance of the Home in society a new and abiding experience to those who take it.

OTHER WORK IN COLLEGES, ETC.

Besides these, two lectures were given in the Theological School of Boston University, two in Cornell, one each in Auburn, Colgate and Union Theological Seminaries, and in Brown and Syracuse Universities. An address was also made at the Conference of Theological Professors in the Evangelical Alliance at Chicago, on the Place of Sociological Education in the work of Theological Seminaries. This kind of instruction, which has come about since our work began, and very largely in direct or indirect connection with it, has now become so common and is so eagerly welcomed, that it needs direction rather than incentive. There are two or three perils to which it is particularly exposed. The theological seminaries may be tempted to establish chairs of Sociology instead of chairs for the Christian Application of the science. In this way they will needlessly duplicate work that will soon be done in the colleges, miss that part of study which is peculiarly their own, and crowd the other work of the theological student. Then the present number of trained sociologists is so small that the chairs will be hastily filled by men from the pastorate, whose preparation in the science, aside from their practical studies, is at the best imperfect. But these things will work themselves clear in time, as will the current confusion of popular ideas about the meaning of Sociology itself, which is often used to cover both this science, the various separate social sciences, and all sorts of practical work in the fields of social reform. The popular interest in Sociology, in this general but unscientific use of the term, never needed more careful direction than at the present time.

THE GROWTH OF THE IDEA OF THE HOME.

The most hopeful thing in the review of the movement in the interest of the Family, is the evidence of the growth of an intelligent interest in the idea of the Home as a most important social factor. The interest in sociology as a science brings out the Home in the educational institution. A course on the Family is an inevitable consequence of the introduction of Sociology into the College or

Theological Seminary. Students of Ethics and Economics are making more of the Home in their studies. The problems of the higher education of women, and the study of psychological and pedagogical subjects, lead directly to the Home. The new methods in philanthropy and social reform generally have brought forward the Home itself as the first and fundamental object of solicitude and effort. The Church, too, has awakened a good deal to the danger that lurks in some of her own modern methods, by which a perplexing number of societies often embarrass each other and the Church. For whether they mean to do so or not, these tend to substitute the doing of a great number of things for the Home in place of efforts to reach the Home directly and put it upon its own feet, thus helping it to fulfil its own mission and feed the social life instead of living in spiritual idleness off its bounty. The interest shown in the report on the Church and the Family, to which reference has already been made, shows how widespread, in *one* denomination of Christians at least, is the conviction that there is something wrong here, and that it is time to seek the remedy, which is of itself a long step towards the relief.

MISTAKEN CHARITY.

And yet this better way of beginning construction work in the Home itself rather than plundering it of its opportunities by transferring its needy inmates to the great institutions where they get many good things, but become artificial and unpractical, comes into favor slowly. The better European thought long ago discovered that the presence of many Foundling institutions and easy means of admission to them put a premium on illegitimacy. Massachusetts has found also that it is better to keep children at home when possible, or put them into families, than into great institutions. But I know of a society which has placed thousands of children in families all over the prairies, whose secretary admits that it has done nothing whatever to better the condition of the homes whence the children are taken, though he confesses this is very important. Such charity seems to me only half developed. At present it practically puts a premium on poverty and want, offering to take the helpless little ones off the hands of the indifferent parents as soon as their condition may justify the action of an agent who may be more ambitious to place a child than he is to improve

its natural home. An open saloon at convenient corners, easy administration of careless marriage and divorce laws, a host of unorganized and unrelated charities, a smooth road to the almshouse, the great institution and the adoptive home, are all in their way encouragements to intemperance, to a hasty and brief domestic life, to improvidence, poverty and parental neglect. In more subtle, and no less dangerous ways, do a multitude of efforts to do the religious and educational work of the Home almost wholly outside its walls tend to demoralize the domestic spirit. Now the more we can do to make the Home sound and pure in its constitution, carefully guarded in respect of its formation in Marriage and its premature dissolution in Divorce, sensitive to its opportunities, jealous of its own offices, and ever eager to do its own work well, and keenly feeling the shame of the neglect of it and reliance on others, the more shall we fulfil the great social office of the Home and keep our national life sound at heart.

In the phrase of the constitution of the League, it is our aim "to promote an improvement in public sentiment and legislation in the institution of the Family." We believe that "to promote improvement" is far better than to accomplish larger things ourselves. For then it is not the things which we do, so much as the forces that are set in motion, whether by ourselves or others, that accomplish the good. That there has been in the last few years a wholesome movement in behalf of the Home along the lines of legislation, education, religion and practical life, cannot be doubted. Nor can those who take the trouble to study the subject doubt that the National Divorce Reform League has had an honorable part in the work. The steadfastness of its friends in a year of great perplexities and financial embarrassments promises that its future work will not be less useful.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL W. DIKE,

Corresponding Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

WILLIAM G. BENEDICT, *Treasurer.*

DR. In account with the National Divorce Reform League. CR.

Dec. 31, 1892.		Dec. 31, 1893.	
To Balance	\$ 6.58	By Payments at various times	
Dec. 31, 1893.		for	
To Receipts from contributions		Travelling Expenses	\$ 213.28
of 1893	2,513.88	Printing	251.75
		Postage	65.59
		Advertising, Express, etc.	40.40
		Stationery	11.65
		Rent	50.00
		Applied on salary of Rev. S.	
		W. Dike, Cor. Sec'y,	1,887.79
			<u>\$2,520.46</u>
	<u>\$2,520.46</u>	Deficit for the year, due Dr. Dike for	
		salary, \$112.21.	

Jan. 7	Pres. Seth Low, LL.D., New York	\$50.00
16	George P. Davis, Brookline	5.00
18	Mrs. Theodore D. Woolsey, New Haven, Ct.	50.00
19	Rev. W. S. Smith, Auburndale	10.00
23	Pres. E. M. Gallaudet, LL.D., Washington	5.00
25	Hon. Hamilton Andrews Hill, LL.D., Boston	10.00
25	George C. Shattuck, M.D., Boston	25.00
25	Rev. S. P. Leeds, D.D., Hanover, N. H.	7.50
30	Prof. W. E. Huntington, Ph.D., Newton Centre	5.00
31	W. O. Grover, Boston	50.00
31	J. N. Denison, Boston	25.00

Received in January \$242.50

Feb. 6	Col. Jacob L. Greene, Hartford, Ct.	\$25.00
6	James C. Braman, Auburndale	10.00
7	Rev. C. D. Bradlee, D.D., Boston	5.00
8	Rev. Thomas W. Thompson, Worcester	5.00
13	Hon. N. Shipman, LL.D., Hartford, Ct.	25.00
15	Church of the Incarnation, New York	50.00
15	William G. Benedict, Boston	25.00
15	Ephraim Whitman, Worcester, Mass.	25.00
15	Hon. William E. Dodge, New York	100.00
15	St. Bartholomew's Church, New York	100.00

15	Prof. E. H. Griffin, D.D., LL.D., Baltimore	\$ 5.00
16	Samuel D. Warren, Boston	15.00
17	Prof. Henry W. Farnham, New Haven, Ct.	15.00
18	Pres. W. D. Hyde, D.D., Brunswick, Me.	5.00
18	Rev. Leroy S. Bean, Gorham, Me.	5.00
20	Rev. Reese F. Alsop, D.D., Brooklyn, N. Y.	5.00
20	Edwin Ginn, Winchester, Mass.	10.00
20	Rev. A. B. Hunter, Raleigh, N. C.	5.00
21	Alfred T. White, Brooklyn, N. Y.	10.00
21	Hon. Arthur T. Lyman, Boston, Mass.	5.00
22	George B. Knapp, Auburndale, Mass.	10.00
23	First Congregational Church, Waterbury, Ct.	25.00
24	Park Congregational Church, Norwich, Ct.	25.00
25	Joseph Lippitt, Providence, R. I.	5.00
26	W. W. Lockwood, Detroit, Mich.	10.00

Received in February	\$525.00
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Mar. 6	Robert Gardiner, Chestnut Hill	\$ 5.00
11	Rev. E. W. Smith, Fall River, Mass.	5.00
11	Rev. Arthur Lawrence, Stockbridge, Mass.	25.00
11	Robert C. Ogden, Philadelphia	25.00
14	Dr. William Goodell, Philadelphia	10.00
14	George Burnham, Philadelphia	25.00
16	Stuart Wood, Philadelphia	10.00
17	Prof. E. Y. Hincks, D.D., Andover	5.00
20	Christ Church, Fitchburg	7.29
20	Mrs. R. H. Dana, Jr., Cambridge	10.00
29	Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, D.D., Cambridge	15.00

Received in March	\$142.29
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Apr. 7	W. P. Henzey, Philadelphia	\$20.00
7	Alexander Brown, Philadelphia	10.00
7	W. S. Price, Philadelphia	5.00
10	Hon. J. M. Allen, Hartford, Ct.	25.00
10	Congregational Churches, Burlington, Vt.	10.00
10	Prof. L. O. Brastow, D.D., New Haven, Ct.	10.00
10	St. Stephen's Church, Providence	10.00
12	Martha C. Burgess, Dedham	10.00
13	Grace Church, New York	100.00
20	Colleges and Seminaries in New York, for ex- penses	35.00
22	Prof. C. C. Bragdon, Auburndale	10.00

Received in April	\$245.00
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May 1	The Very Rev. E. A. Hoffman, D.D., New York	\$25.00
11	Prof. G. G. Willson, Ph.D., Providence, R. I.	5.00

	13	Hon. Dorman B. Eaton, New York	.	.	\$20.00
	13	E. P. Dutton, New York	.	.	10.00
	19	Hon. C. C. Burr, Auburndale, Mass.	.	.	10.00
	24	Hon. H. O. Houghton, Cambridge	.	.	10.00
	24	Hon. Jonathan A. Lane, Boston	.	.	10.00
	26	Hon. Jeremiah Halsey, Norwich, Ct.	.	.	5.00
	27	J. Howard Nichols, Newton, Mass.	.	.	5.00
	30	St. James Church, Philadelphia	.	.	50.00
	30	Rev. O. Applegate, Newbury, N. Y.	.	.	5.00
	30	Rev. George M. Steele, D.D., Auburndale	.	.	5.00
		Received in May	.	.	\$160.00
June	2	Prof. A. R. Merriam, Hartford, Ct.	.	.	\$ 5.00
	13	J. P. Bates, Brookline, Mass.	.	.	10.00
	16	George Ripley, Andover, Mass.	.	.	10.00
	18	Churches in Greenfield, Mass.	.	.	5.25
	26	Rev. J. Coit, Winchester, Mass.	.	.	3.00
	27	J. N. Bacon, Newton, Mass.	.	.	10.00
	30	St. John's Church, Stamford, Ct.	.	.	10.00
		Received in June	.	.	\$53.25
July	3	Rev. W. S. Smith, Auburndale, Mass. (extra)	.	.	\$10.00
	9	Hon. R. D. Benedict, Brooklyn, N. Y.	.	.	10.00
	30	Rev. D. Merriman, D.D., Worcester	.	.	50.00
	31	Rev. Francis Goodwin, Hartford, Ct.	.	.	20.00
		Received in July	.	.	\$90.00
Sept.	23	Rev. F. N. Peloubet, D.D., Auburndale, Mass.	.	.	\$ 5.00
	29	F. D. Allen, Boston	.	.	10.00
		Received in September	.	.	\$15.00
Oct.	3	Morris K. Jesup, New York	.	.	\$5.00
	4	Samuel Johnson, Boston	.	.	10.00
	4	J. W. Danielson, Providence, R. I.	.	.	20.00
	7	Rev. J. H. Denison, D.D., Williamstown, Mass.	.	.	5.00
	8	Rev. Henry Fairbanks, Ph.D., St. Johnsbury, Vt.	.	.	20.00
	20	J. H. Washburn, New York	.	.	20.00
	27	Cong'l Sunday School, Pawtucket, R. I.	.	.	18.84
	30	Pres. Franklin Carter, LL.D., Williamstown, Mass.	.	.	5.00
	30	Hon. James White, Williamstown, Mass.	.	.	5.00
	30	Rev. C. W. Huntington, Lowell, Mass.	.	.	5.00
		Received in October	.	.	\$113.84
Nov.	4	Rev. D. L. Furber, D.D., Newton Centre, Mass.	.	.	\$ 2.00
	4	Prof. F. G. Peabody, D.D., Cambridge, Mass.	.	.	5.00

8	Rev. E. K. Alden, D.D., Boston	\$10.00
11	Dr. C. A. Peabody, Worcester, Mass.	5.00
15	Prof. H. W. Farnham, New Haven, Ct.	10.00
15	Rev. Calvin Stebbins, Worcester, Mass.	5.00
16	Rev. A. St. John Chambré, D.D., Lowell, Mass.	5.00
16	Mrs. William E. Dodge, Sr., New York	10.00
16	Rev. D. Stuart Dodge, New York	10.00
16	Rev. Calvin Cutler, Auburndale	3.00
20	Prof. John Phelps Taylor, D.D., Andover, Mass.	5.00
21	Anson Phelps Stokes, New York	10.00
22	St. Luke's Church, Philadelphia	25.00
23	Rev. Horace Dutton, Auburndale	5.00
25	H. G. Marquand, New York	10.00
27	Eliot Church, Lowell, Mass.	5.00
28	Rev. C. M. Lamson, D.D., St. Johnsbury, Vt.	5.00
28	Prof. G. D. B. Pepper, D.D., Waterville, Me.	1.00
29	Rev. Ruen Thomas, D.D., Brookline	5.00
30	First Church, Middletown, Ct.	10.00
30	Emmanuel Church, Boston	5.00

Received in November \$151.00

Dec. 1	Hon. Simeon E. Baldwin, LL D., New Haven, Ct.	\$50.00
5	Cecil F. P. Bancroft, Ph.D., Andover, Mass.	5.00
6	Everett O. Fisk, Boston	5.00
6	Hon. Edward L. Pickard, Auburndale, Mass.	10.00
7	Rev. John S. Lindsay, D.D., Boston	5.00
7	W. B. Herrick, Natick, Mass.	5.00
8	St. John's Church, Providence, R. I.	25.00
8	Hon. L. D. Brewster, Danbury, Ct.	5.00
8	Mrs. Horace Fairbanks, St. Johnsbury, Vt.	10.00
8	E. R. Brown, Dover, N. H.	5.00
9	St. Stephen's Church, Philadelphia	100.00
9	Mrs. Maria Upham Drake, Boston	10.00
9	Hon. Samuel B. Capen, Boston	10.00
11	Asylum Hill Cong'l Church, Hartford, Ct.	50.00
11	Rev. James W. Bradin, Hartford, Ct.	5.00
12	Rev. Augustus Woodbury, D.D., Plymouth, N. H.	5.00
12	Mrs. William Appleton, Boston	5.00
13	"A Vermont Lady"	25.00
13	Rev. Francis H. Johnson, Andover, Mass.	10.00
14	Eliot Church, Newton, Mass.	10.00
14	Chas. E. Ranlet, Auburndale, Mass.	5.00
14	W. H. Catlin, Meriden, Ct.	5.00
15	Rev. T. T. Munger, D.D., New Haven, Ct.	5.00

15	Hon. Robbins Battell, Norfolk, Ct.	\$ 5.00
15	Grace Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.	15.00
15	"A Friend," New York	5.00
15	Rev. James Dingwell, Rockville, Ct.	5.00
15	Trinity Church, Boston (in part)	50.00
16	Eugene Delano, Philadelphia	10 00
18	Rev. E. M. Parker, Concord, N. H.	5.00
18	Prof. Graham Taylor, D.D., Chicago, Ill.	5.00
18	James J. Goodwin, New York	25.00
18	R. H. Stearns, Boston	5.00
19	Rev. George M. Adams, D.D., Auburndale	5.00
19	Rev. C. H. Spalding, Cambridge	10.00
20	Rt. Rev. Leighton Coleman, D.D., LL.D., Wil- mington, Del.	5.00
21	Rev. E. E. Strong, D.D., Auburndale	2.00
22	Jn. Nicholas Brown, Providence, R. I.	25.00
23	Christ Church, Hartford, Ct.	5.00
23	Hon. Felix R. Brunot, Allegheny City, Pa.	25.00
25	Rev. W. S. Rainsford, D.D., New York	5 00
26	Rev. Edward C. Porter, Watertown, Mass.	5.00
27	Rev. H. C. Hovey, D.D., Newburyport, Mass.	5.00
27	W. Endicott, Jr., Boston	5.00
27	St. John's Church, Washington, D. C.	20.00
29	Pres. James E. Rhoads, Bryn Mawr, Pa.	5.00
30	Rev. Lewis W. Hicks, Wellesley	5.00
30	Prof. George Harris, D.D., Andover	10.00
30	Rev. Arthur Little, D.D., Boston	5.00
31	Rev. F. E. Clark, D.D., Auburndale	5 00
31	Hon. Edmund H. Bennett, LL.D., Boston	10.00
31	Rev. George H. Cummings, Thompson, Ct.	2.00
31	William G. Benedict, Boston (special)	32.00
31	Hon. C. C. Burr, Auburndale (extra)	10.00
31	Coolidge S. Roberts (extra) Auburndale	20.00
31	Prof. C. W. Shields, D.D., LL.D., Princeton, N. J.	5.00
31	Trinity Church, Boston (balance of contribution)	50.00
Total received in December		<hr/> \$776.00

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

National Divorce Reform League.

ARTICLE I. This Association shall be called the NATIONAL DIVORCE REFORM LEAGUE.

ART. II. Its object shall be to promote an improvement in public sentiment and legislation in the institution of the Family, especially as affected by existing evils relating to Marriage and Divorce. It may coöperate with auxiliary or other bodies having similar aims in such ways as may be deemed expedient.

ART. III. It shall consist of the following persons, having power to fill vacancies and to add to their number.

ART. IV. The Officers of this Society shall be a President, not more than five Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of not more than twelve persons, of which Committee the Corresponding Secretary shall be a member, and of which not less than three shall constitute a quorum, having the duties indicated in their several offices; to be elected at the Annual Meeting, and to hold office until their successors are appointed.

ART. V. The LEAGUE shall hold its Annual Meeting on the first Wednesday in January, unless otherwise directed by the Executive Committee, and at such hour and place as shall be indicated in the call of the Committee.

ART. VI. Amendments of this Constitution, of which due notice shall have been given in the call of any Annual Meeting, may be adopted at such meeting by the vote of two-thirds of the members present.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS concerning the work of the LEAGUE and its general business shall be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary, Rev. SAMUEL W. DIKE, LL. D., Auburndale, Mass.

CONTRIBUTIONS should be sent to the Treasurer, WILLIAM G. BENEDICT, Esq., 610 Atlantic Avenue, Boston.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I hereby give and bequeath to the NATIONAL DIVORCE REFORM LEAGUE, a Corporation created by the laws of the State of Connecticut, or its successors or assigns, the sum of dollars, the principal [or income as may be desired] of which is to be used for the purposes for which said Corporation was chartered.

